

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 12533 110918Z
ACTION L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCON
SUBJECT: WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE - MUTUC'S
RESIGNATION

1. AUGUST 11 BULLETIN TODAY CARRIED FRONT-PAGE NEWS ITEMS
COVERING AMBASSADOR AMELITO R. MUTUC'S RESIGNATION AS PRESIDENT
OF THE WORLD ASSOCIATION OF LAWYERS AND DESIGNATED COORDINATOR
OF THE MANILA WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE (WPTLC) IN
PROTEST AGAINST THE "SHABBY TREATMENT" ACCORDED THE PHILIPPINE
ORGANIZERS OF THE CONFERENCE. ANGERED BY LETTER OF WPTLC
PRESIDENT RHYNE DELIVERED BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARGARET
HENNEBERRY, MUTUC'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION STATES:

QUOTE: YOUR INSTRUCTIONS THAT ONLY MRS. HENNEBERRY CAN
AUTHORIZE EXPENSES AND THAT SHE IS IN COMPLETE CHARGE OF THE
ENTIRE CONFERENCE AND EVERY DETAIL THEREOF, IS NOT ONLY
IMPRACTICAL BUT A SLUR UPON THE HONOR, DIGNITY, AND INTEGRITY
OF MY FELLOW WORKERS. END QUOTE

WPTL: CANCELLATION OF MUTUC'S POWER OF ATTORNEY WAS DESCRIBED
BY MUTUC AS:

QUOTE: ...AN ASPERSION UPON MY PERSON AND INTEGRITY AND
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ON THAT OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE CONFERENCE
ORGANIZATION WHICH LEAVES ME NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO
TENDER MY RESIGNATION...END QUOTE

2. ALTHOUGH ARTICLE REPORTS THAT MUTUC'S RESIGNATION TRIGGERED
THE RESIGNATION OF THE 15-MAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT
COMPOSED OF COURT JUSTICES AND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE

BAR, IT APPEARS THAT ONLY MUTUC WILL BE LEAVING. PRESIDENT RHYNE REPORTEDLY CABLED MUTUC IN SOMEWHAT CONCILIATORY EFFORT TO AVOID FURTHER DIFFICULTY. THIS EFFORT COULD CONCEIVABLY RESULT IN MUTUC'S WITHDRAWAL OF HIS RESIGNATION.

3. SOURCES CLOSE TO PROBLEM REPORT THAT DISCORD AROSE FROM MUTUC'S APPARENT EFFORTS TO CUT THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (HENNEBERRY) OUT OF THE PICTURE AND TARDINESS IN ACCOUNTING FOR FUNDS.
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